

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

~~_____ packaging an installation program for use in installing a software application; and~~

~~_____ converting an installation program which is in a non-streamable installation~~

~~format into a streamable installation program, the installation program for installing a software application on a computer system; and~~

streaming the streamable installation program to a target processing system over a network to cause the installation program to configure the target processing system for execution of the software application.

2. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said streaming the

streamable installation program to the target processing system comprises using the

streamable installation program in a streaming mode to create user-specific information

on the target processing system, the user-specific information for subsequent use by

the software application when the software application is executed on the target

processing system in the streaming mode.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said streaming the

streamable installation program to a target processing system over a network to cause

the installation program to configure the target processing system for execution of the

software application comprises causing the target system to be configured for streaming

the software application.

4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 3, further comprising streaming the software application from a host processing system to the target processing system over the network.

5. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said streaming the streamable installation program comprises:

identifying portions of the streamable installation program that need to be downloaded to the target processing system;

downloading the portions of the streamable installation program to the target processing system; and

executing the streamable installation program on the target processing system using only said portions.

6. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising, prior to streaming the streamable installation program, packaging the installation program into a form which facilitates streaming of the installation program.

7. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the streamable installation program comprises a dummy installation packageimage, application information and a database, the database containing the software application and indicating a segmenting of the software application.

8. (Original) A method comprising:

downloading, to a client over a network, only portions of an installation program, the installation program for use to install a software application on a computer system, wherein the software application resides on a server;

using only said downloaded portions of the installation program on the client to configure the client to execute the software application, including identifying portions of the software application that are to be download to the client;

downloading only said portions of the software application from the server to the client; and

executing the software application on the client using only said portions of the software application downloaded to the client.

9. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 8, wherein the installation program comprises a dummy installation ~~package~~image, application information and a database, the database containing the software application and indicating a segmenting of the software application.

10. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

~~packaging~~converting an installation program ~~in which is in a standardized, non-streamable installation format into~~ a form that facilitates streaming of the installation program to a target processing system, the installation program for use in installing a software application; and

streaming the installation program to the target processing system to cause the target processing system to be configured ~~to execute~~for streaming execution of the software application.

11. (Original) A method as recited in claim 9, wherein said streaming the installation program to the target processing system comprises using the installation program in a streaming mode to create user-specific information on the target processing system, the user-specific information for subsequent use by the software application when the software application is executed on the target processing system in the streaming mode.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 9, wherein the installation program comprises a dummy installation ~~package~~image, application information and a database, the database containing the software application and indicating a segmenting of the software application.

14. (Currently amended) A method of creating a streaming installation package, the method comprising:

inputting a ~~non-streaming~~non-streamable installation package for use in installing a software application on a target system, the non-streaming installation package including a plurality of files;

identifying all of the plurality of files in the non-streamable ~~non-streaming~~ installation package;

classifying each of the plurality of files according to file type;

creating a dummy installation ~~package~~image that includes a plurality of dummy files representing the plurality of files, based on said file types; and

creating the streaming installation package from the dummy installation packageimage, said streaming installation package being in a form that can be executed on a target system in a streaming mode.

15. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the ~~non-streaming~~non-streamable installation package conforms to an installation standard.

16. (Original) A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the streaming installation package further includes application information and a database, wherein the database contains the software application and indicates a segmenting of the application.

17. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the streaming installation package is configured to be streamed to a the target system to configure the target system for execution of a software application in a streaming mode.

18. (Currently amended) A method of creating a streaming installation package, to be streamed to a target system to configure the target system for execution of a software application in a streaming mode, the method comprising:

inputting a ~~non-streaming~~non-streamable installation package for use in installing the software application, the ~~non-streaming~~non-streamable installation package including a plurality of files, including a set of one or more archive files;

extracting the archive files from the ~~non-streaming~~non-streamable installation package;

creating a list of all of the files in the ~~non-streaming~~non-streamable installation package;

creating a list of streamlets for all of the files in the ~~non-streaming~~non-streamable installation package;

classifying each of the files in the ~~non-streaming~~non-streamable installation package as belonging to either a first type or a second type, the first type representing all of the files in the ~~non-streaming~~non-streamable installation package which are normally installed on a system for purposes of installing the software application, the second type representing all of the files in the ~~non-streaming~~non-streamable installation package which are not of the first type;

for each file of the first type which is not an archive file, creating a dummy file of the same size with a special header and nullifying all of the other files of the first type;

creating a dummy archive file for any files of the first type which are contained in an archive file;

creating a dummy installation ~~package~~image including each said dummy file, each said dummy archive file, and each said file of the second type; and

creating the streaming installation package to include the dummy installation ~~package~~image, application information and a database, wherein the database contains the software application and indicates a segmenting of the application into streamlets, and wherein the application information represents only the files of the second type in the dummy installation ~~package~~image.

19-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

means for packaging an installation program which is in a standardized, non-streamable installation format in a form that facilitates streaming of the installation program to a target processing system, the installation program for use in installing a software application; and

means for streaming the installation program to the target processing system to cause the target processing system to be configured to execute the software application.

23. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 22, wherein said means for streaming the installation program to the target processing system comprises means for using the installation program in a streaming mode to create user-specific information on the target processing system, the user-specific information for subsequent use by the software application when the software application is executed on the target processing system in the streaming mode.

24. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 23, wherein the means for streaming the installation program to the target processing system comprises means for streaming the installation program to the target processing system to cause the target processing system to be configured to execute the software application in a streaming mode.

25. (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the non-streamable installation format is a standardized installation format.

26. (New) A method as recited in claim 25, wherein the standardized installation format is MSI format.

27. (New) A method as recited in claim 8, further comprising:

prior to said downloading only portions of the installation program to the client,
converting the installation program from a standardized, non-streamable installation format into a streamable installation program which is configured for software streaming.

28. (New) A method as recited in claim 27, wherein the standardized, non-streamable installation format is MSI format.

29. (New) A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the non-streamable installation package is in a standardized format.

30. (New) A method as recited in claim 29, wherein the standardized format is MSI format.

31. (New) A method as recited in claim 18, wherein the non-streamable installation package is in a standardized format.

32. (New) A method as recited in claim 31, wherein the standardized format is MSI format.

33. (New) A method as recited in claim 22, wherein the standardized, non-streamable installation format is MSI format.